

## Claims

1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising Varicella Zoster Virus IE63 protein or  
5 an immunologically functional derivative and a pharmaceutically acceptable  
excipient.
2. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a nucleic acid encoding IE63 or an  
immunologically functional derivative thereof.
3. IE63 gene protein or immunologically functional derivative thereof for use in  
10 medicine.
4. Use of IE 63 protein or an immunologically active derivative thereof for the  
manufacture of a medicament for the prevention or amelioration of Varicella or  
Zoster.
5. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1 additionally comprising other  
15 VZV antigens.
6. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 5 wherein the second Varicella  
Zoster protein is selected from the group, gpI, gpII, gpIII, gpIV, gpV or IE62 or  
immunological functional derivative thereof.
7. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1, 2, 5 or 6 additionally  
20 comprising an adjuvant.
8. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 7 wherein the adjuvant  
preferentially induces a TH1 response.
9. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 9 wherein the antigen is  
presented as an oil in water emulsion together with QS21 and 3D-MPL.
- 25 10. A method of treating a patient suffering from or susceptible to Varicella Zoster  
virus infection. comprising administering to a patient a safe and effective amount

of a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in any one of claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9.

11. A method of producing a pharmaceutical composition comprising a Varicella  
Zoster virus IE63 protein, nucleic acid or immunologically functional derivative  
5 thereof, comprising mixing said protein, nucleic acid or derivative with a  
pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
12. A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the excipient comprises an adjuvant.